Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 DRC-01 /036 W

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R 081218Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0944 INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT LEBANON AMEMBASSY KUWAIT KUWAIT

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AMEMBASSY JIDDA SAUDI ARABIA

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS : ECON, MU

SUBJECT: INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL PROJECT MUSCAT

FROM QUINLAN MUSCAT

1. JOHN TOWNSEND (BRIT), ECONOMIC ADVISOR OMANI GOVMT, HAS INFORMED IA# THAT SULTAN BECOMING IMPATIENT WITH IHC RE HOTEL PROJECT MUSCAT. TOWNSEND SAID QTE I CAN OFFICIALLY SAY THAT WE ARE DISTURBED OVER IHC'S HANDLING OF THE HOTEL PROJECT END QTE. HIS PRIMARY COMPLAINT WAS OF IHC QTE PROCRASTINATION AND BUMBLING END QTE. CITED EXAMPLE BASIC DESIGN ORIGINALLY SUBMITTED BY SOGEX. SAID IHC REJECTED SOGEX DESIGN ORIGINALLY, BUT AFTER SOME

MONTHS DELAY CAME OUT WITH DESIGN ESSENTIALLY SAME. SAID THERE WERE OTHER EXAMPLES. ALSO SAID THAT BEIRUT BASED ARCHITECT (BELIEVE NAME WAS ORKIN) HAD WALKED OFF JOB IN DISGUST WITH IHC. TOWNSEND

SAID HE JUST SENT CABLE IHC NEW YORK IN WHICH HE ASKED THAT LOCAL IHC REP FOX, WHO CURRENTLY EITHER IN RIYADH OR BEIRUT, RETURN MUSCAT SOONEST.

2. EMBASSY REALIZES PICTURE MUCH MORE COMPLICATED THAN THAT PAINTED BY TOWNSEND. HOWEVER WE DO BELIEVE IHC NEW YORK SHOULD BE ADVISED OF ABOVE CONVERSATION. US BUSINESS AND COMMERCIAL INTEREST OMAN AMONG LEAST TOUCHED, IF NOT THE LEAST TOUCHED, IN ARAB WORLD BY CONFIDENTIAL

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CURRENT POLITICAL PROBLEMS. WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE IF THEY BECOME

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OUDED BY SOLUBLE MISUNDERSTANDING.	
EIN	
ONFIDENTIAL	
UNFIDENTIAL	
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Authority: golinofr
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Subject: : INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL PROJECT MUSCAT FROM QUINLAN MUSCAT

TAGS: ECON, MU, INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL

To: STATE

Type: TE

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